

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-7 (Canceled).

8. (Previously Presented) A method of monitoring the appropriateness of digital content received at a plurality of monitored computers over a computer network, each of the plurality of monitored computers under the control of a monitored user, the method comprising:

(a) providing a client application comprising data processing executable instructions resident on each of said monitored computers;

(b) providing, in the client application, modules for performing content rating and content filtering;

(c) providing a server application comprising data processing executable instructions resident on a server remotely located from the plurality of monitored computers;

(d) providing at least one communication application in the client application;

(e) providing at least one communication application in the server application;

(f) for the plurality of monitored computers, utilizing said client application to capture in real time all requests for data as the monitored user accesses digital content;

(g) for the plurality of monitored computers, utilizing the at least one communication application of the client application to automatically pass information related to the captured requests for data from the client application to the server in real time as the monitored user accesses the digital content;

(h) for said plurality of monitored computers, utilizing said client application and said server in combination in order to generate an approval or disapproval indication for the digital content in real time as the monitored user accesses the digital content; and

(i) utilizing the client application for blocking or permitting further communication in a predetermined manner in at least partial dependence on the approval or disapproval indication.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

sending a signal from the client application to a plurality of servers to determine which server of the plurality of servers has the quickest response rate;

selecting a server with the quickest response rate as a primary server; and

wherein the server on which the server application is resident has been selected as the a primary server.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

storing configuration settings on at least one backend server;

wherein the configuration settings relate to user-entered preferences;

sending the configuration settings from the at least one backend server to the client application; and

configuring the client application based in at least partial dependence on the configuration settings.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

for the plurality of monitored computers, receiving digital content from the network in response to the requests for data; and

utilizing the client application for delaying delivery of the digital content until the approval or disapproval indication has been generated.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

sending updates from the server application to the client application at predetermined intervals; and

configuring the client application based in at least partial dependence on the updates.

14-28. (Withdrawn)